



Montana Department of  
**LABOR & INDUSTRY**

**Montana Board of Massage Therapy**

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**Licensing Requirements and Application Checklist  
Massage Therapist**

**License Requirements for Massage Therapist**

Below are the minimum requirements you must meet in order to be licensed in the state of Montana.

1. Must be 18 years or older. ([37-33-501\(1d\)](#) MCA)
2. Must be of good moral character. ([37-33-501\(1e\)](#) MCA; [ARM 24.155.604](#); [ARM 24.155.608](#))
3. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. ([37-33-501\(1c\)](#) MCA)
4. A completed massage therapist application form with the appropriate fee(s). ([37-33-501\(1a\)](#) MCA; [ARM 24.155.401](#))
5. If applying by credential: applicant must possess an active license, certificate, or registration in good standing from another state whose current licensing requirements are equivalent. ([37-33-502\(2b\)](#) MCA; [ARM 24.155.608](#))
6. If applying by examination, applicant must
  - a. have completed a massage therapy educational program of a minimum 500 hours of study that meets or exceeds the curriculum guidelines established by any program or organization accredited by the national commission for certifying agencies or its equivalent or successor, and
  - b. obtain a passing score on the MBLEx, NCETMB, NESL or the NCETM examination, or a state examination deemed to be equivalent. ([37-33-502\(2a\)](#) MCA; [ARM 24.155.604](#))

**Checklist of Required Documents to Submit for Application for Massage Therapist**

The following documents and additional forms are required in addition to the basic application. Some documents may be submitted directly by the applicant as part of the application. Others, such as transcripts, may need to be sent to the board directly from the source.

- ☐ Official license verification from states and jurisdictions in which the applicant holds or has ever held a professional license of any type
- ☐ Proof that applicant is at least 18 years old (copy of driver's license or birth certificate is acceptable) ([37-33-501\(1d\)](#) MCA)
- ☐ Two letters attesting to the good moral character of the applicant sent directly to the board office by individuals who are not family members. ([37-33-501\(1e\)](#) MCA; [ARM 24.155.604](#); [ARM 24.155.608](#))
- ☐ A copy of a certified transcript or certificate of completion sent directly from the custodian of the record, evidencing to the board's satisfaction that the applicant has a high school diploma or its equivalent. ([37-47-502\(2c\)](#) MCA; [ARM 24.155.604](#); [ARM 24.155.608](#))
- ☐ If applying by credential: a copy of the licensing requirements found in current statutes and rules from the credentialing state must be sent to the board office. The current licensing requirements must include proof that applicant completed a program demanding a course of studies that includes, at a minimum, each of the following:
  - 200 hours of in-class and instructor-supervised massage and bodywork assessment, theory, and application instruction; 150 hours combined of instruction on the body systems (anatomy, physiology, and kinesiology) and pathology; and 150 hours combined of business and ethics



instruction and instruction in an area or related field that completes the massage program of study; and

- ☐ A passing score on either the MBLEx, NCETMB, NESL, or the NCETM examination, or a state examination deemed to be equivalent. ([ARM 24.155.608](#))
- ☐ If applying by examination: proof of successful completion of a massage therapy educational program of a minimum 500 hours of study that meets or exceeds the curriculum guidelines established by any program or organization accredited by the national commission for certifying agencies or its equivalent or successor. Those curriculum guidelines are as follows:
  - ☐ 200 hours of in-class and instructor-supervised massage and bodywork assessment, theory, and application instruction; 150 hours combined of instruction on the body systems (anatomy, physiology, and kinesiology) and pathology; and 150 hours combined of business and ethics instruction and instruction in an area or related field that completes the massage program of study ([ARM 24.155.605](#))
- ☐ If applying by examination: evidence of a passing score on either the MBLEx, NCETMB, NESSL or the NCETM examination, or a state examination deemed to be equivalent, which must be from the issuing entity sent directly to the board office. ([37-33-502\(2a\) MCA](#); [ARM 24.155.604](#))

### **Application Fee(s) for Massage Therapist**

The following fee(s) must be submitted with your application. Online applicants can pay using a credit card or e-check. If you submit a paper application you must submit a check. Do not mail cash.

- ☐ \$140 application by credential fee
- ☐ \$140 application by examination fee

**You can apply for a license online at <https://ebiz.mt.gov/POL/> or download a paper application from the website. Online application is recommended.**

**Please include a valid e-mail address with your application. E-mail is the department's primary form of communication.**

**If you have any questions about the application process or the licensing requirements please contact the Department of Labor and Industry Professional Licensing Bureau using the contact information at the top of this checklist.**